

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



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**2012 Kuskokwim Bay Salmon Fishery News Release 11
Districts 4 and 5 to Open to Commercial Salmon Fishing**

This is an announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at Bethel for commercial salmon fishermen in the Kuskokwim Area.

District 4, Quinhagak

District 4, Quinhagak, will open to commercial salmon fishing for 12 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 15, 2012.

Preliminary harvest reports from the August 10 opening indicate a harvest of 2,091 coho; 62 chum; 23 sockeye; and 5 Chinook salmon from 43 permits. Coho salmon harvest and catch rate were below average for that date. Coho salmon harvest and catch rates have been below average for the past five periods. Therefore, the Department has decided to wait until Wednesday for the next commercial period.

In District 4 subsistence salmon fishing will be closed 8 hours before, during, and 4 hours after each commercial fishing period.

District 5, Goodnews Bay

District 5, Goodnews Bay, will open to commercial salmon fishing for 12 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Monday, August 13, 2012 and for 12 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 15, 2012.

Preliminary harvest reports from the August 10 opening indicate a harvest of 1,456 coho; 535 sockeye; 13 chum; and 4 Chinook salmon from 24 permits. The harvest and harvest rate of coho and sockeye salmon were above average.

In District 5 subsistence salmon fishing will be closed 8 hours before, during, and 4 hours after each commercial fishing period.

The Department will be closely monitoring commercial fishing periods to assess fishery performance and anticipates announcing additional commercial fishing periods as warranted. Further announcements will be made from the Bethel Fish and Game office, on the state web site (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>), and local radio stations. News releases will be faxed to area villages and local fish processing companies.

For additional information or questions regarding Districts 4 and 5 and Kuskokwim Area fisheries, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game office in the Bethel at 543-2433 or toll free at 855-933-2433.

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